This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

What is claimed is:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, the cutting assembly being supported by an axle extending through the cutting head.

3. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, the cutting head presenting a beveled base laterally aligned with the cutting assembly.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) [[The]] An apparatus ~~as recited in claim 4~~ for processing harvested dermal tissue supported on a cutting surface, comprising:

a housing presenting a handle having a gripping surface and a cutting head attached to the handle;

a cutting assembly rotatably connected to the cutting head, the cutting assembly including a plurality of spaced apart blade tips that are configured to cut through the harvested tissue as the cutting assembly rotates along the cutting surface to produce

sliced tissue, the blade tips being spaced apart by spacer members having a diameter less than a cutting blade diameter;

a tissue separator including a base supported by the housing and a plurality of tines extending outwardly from the base and configured to interdigitate between adjacent blade tips, wherein the tines remove sliced tissue lodged in the cutting assembly, and wherein the tines engage the spacer members; and

a receptacle disposed downstream of the cutting assembly, the receptacle receiving the sliced tissue from the cutting blades.

6. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[4]] 5, the separator engaging a lower portion of the cutting assembly.

7. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 6, the tines presenting corresponding cam surfaces that bias the lodged tissue downwardly towards the cutting surface.

8. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[4]] 5, the separator coupling the cutting assembly to the receptacle.

9. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 8, the tines presenting corresponding cam surfaces that remove the sliced tissue from the cutting assembly and provide a conduit for the sliced tissue to travel towards the receptacle.

10. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 9, the separator engaging an upper portion of the cutting assembly.

11. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[4]] 5, wherein the separator can be actuated between a stand-by position and an engaged position.

12. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, the separator being hingeably attached to the housing.

13. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 11, wherein the separator is slideably received by the housing.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[4]] 5, wherein the separator is a lower separator that biases sliced tissue towards the cutting surface, the apparatus further comprising an upper separator presenting tines configured to interdigitate between adjacent blade tips, wherein the tines direct sliced tissue lodged in the cutting assembly towards the receptacle.

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, further comprising a second engagement surface for providing additional downward force to the cutting assembly

16. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 15, wherein the second engagement surface is a second handle.

17. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 16, wherein the second handle can be actuated between a storage position and an engaged position.

18. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the blade tips are spaced apart a distance between 100 and 5000 microns.

19. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 18, wherein the blade tips are spaced apart a distance between 200 and 1200 microns.

20. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the sliced tissue presents an edge dimension between 100 and 5000 microns.

21. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 20, wherein the sliced tissue presents an edge dimension between 200 and 1200 microns.

22. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the blade tips are formed in a corresponding plurality of rotatable blades.

23. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 22, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the spacer members are disposed between adjacent blades.

24. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 23, further comprising an axle coupled to the cutting head that supports the blades in a rotatable configuration with respect to the cutting head.

25. (Currently amended) An apparatus for processing harvested dermal tissue, comprising:

a housing presenting a handle having a gripping surface and a cutting head attached to the handle;

a cutting assembly rotatably connected to the cutting head, the cutting assembly including a plurality of spaced apart blade tips that are configured to cut through the harvested tissue as the cutting assembly rotates along the cutting surface to produce sliced tissue;

a first tissue separator including a base supported by the housing and a plurality of tines extending outwardly from the base, the plurality of tines [[and]] configured to interdigitate with adjacent cutting blade tips~~, wherein the tines~~ and to remove sliced tissue lodged in the cutting assembly when the apparatus is moved in a first direction; and

a second tissue separator including a second base supported by the housing and a second plurality of tines extending outwardly from the second base, the second plurality of tines configured to interdigitate with adjacent cutting blade tips, the second tissue separator configured to dislodge sliced tissue from the blades when the apparatus is moved in a second direction.

26. (Currently amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 25, further comprising a receptacle supported by the housing and disposed downstream of the cutting assembly, the receptacle receiving sliced particles from the second separator.

27-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently amended) [[The]] A hand-held apparatus ~~of claim 33~~ for processing harvested tissue, ~~further~~ comprising:

a cutting head;

a cutting assembly disposed within the cutting head, the cutting assembly including a plurality of spaced apart blades having tips, the blades configured to rotate with respect to the cutting head to cut through the harvested tissue;

a first handle extending from the cutting head and providing a first gripping surface;

a second handle pivotally coupled to the cutting head and providing a second gripping surface;

a first separator connected to the cutting head, the first separator having a first plurality of tines sized and arranged to interdigitate with the spaced apart blades, the first separator configured to dislodge sliced tissue from the blades when the hand-held apparatus is moved in a first direction; and

a second separator connected to the cutting head, the second separator having a second plurality of tines sized and arranged to interdigitate with the spaced apart

blades, the second separator configured to dislodge sliced tissue from the blades when the apparatus is moved in a second direction.

35. (Previously presented) The hand-held apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second direction is opposite the first direction.